

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM  
3.38  
(ID # 8916)

**MEETING DATE:**

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

**FROM :** COUNTY COUNSEL:

**SUBJECT:** COUNTY COUNSEL: Approval of FY 2019/20 County Counsel Billable Hourly Rates, All Districts. [\$0]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the proposed FY 2019/20 billable hourly rates for the Office of County Counsel as specified in Attachment A.

**ACTION:** 4/5 Vote Required, Policy

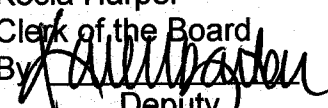
  
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Gregory V. Priamos, Director County Counsel 1/22/2019

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Hewitt, seconded by Supervisor Perez and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: January 29, 2019  
xc: Co.Co.

Kecia Harper  
Clerk of the Board  
By   
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
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<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> Reimbursement for Services from Departmental Budgets and Outside Revenue Sources			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b>	No
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b>	19/20

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

County Counsel is statutorily mandated to defend and prosecute civil cases, render legal advice and assist on issues of law affecting the County Board of Supervisors, elected officials, County agencies, departments, commissions and special districts County Counsel's goal is to provide cost-effective legal services designed to promote the public service objective of the County of Riverside, while as the same time protecting the County from risk and loss.

Since County Counsel operates as a general support service department it must recover costs through charges to client departments to the greatest extent possible. Currently, County Counsel's budget is 90 percent salaries and benefits, and 10 percent fixed and other costs, with no planned vacant positions. Consequently, County Counsel has no ability to absorb the projected increased costs except through cost recovery in our billable rates. County Counsel is therefore requesting an increase of our hourly rates as follows:

Attorneys: \$187/hour (from \$180 in FY18/19)

Paralegals: \$127/hour (from \$117 in FY18/19)

County Counsel currently projects collecting a total of \$12,585,735 in billable revenue based on the requested rates, and that the impact of the requested rate increases will result in \$754,777 in added costs to those clients as detailed in Attachment B.

By way of comparison, the FY18/19 billable rate for attorneys in the San Bernardino County Counsel's Office is \$204/hour. The average billable rate for all the County Counsel's Offices in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Diego is \$217/hour, \$30/hour more than the rate increase requested here.

**Impact on Citizens and Businesses**

N/A

**Additional Fiscal Information**

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In FY 2020-2021 County Counsel plans on becoming a 100 percent direct bill department with the exception of Board of Supervisors. In years past some departments have been categorized as non-billable for no apparent reason other than that's the way it's been done in the past. This will increase County Counsel revenue and reduce Net County Cost. By waiting until FY 2020-2021 allows each department to plan and budget accordingly.

**Contract History and Price Reasonableness**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- ATTACHMENT A.** Proposed FY 2019-2020 Billable Hourly Rates Summary
- ATTACHMENT B.** Departments-Impact of Proposed Changes  
Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Projections

  
Melissa Noone, Associate Management Analyst 1/23/2019

ATTACHMENT A

<b>POSITIONS</b>	<b>FY 18-19 CURRENT RATE</b>	<b>FY 19-20 PROPOSED RATE</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
<b>Attorney's</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>	<b>\$187.00</b>	<b>3.89%</b>
<b>Paralegals</b>	<b>\$117.00</b>	<b>\$127.00</b>	<b>8.55%</b>

ATTACHMENT B

Departments - Impact of Proposed Changes

\*Estimates Using Current and Proposed Attorney rates only  
Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Projections

Department/Dept ID	FY 18/19 Projected Billable Hours	FY 18/19 Current BOS Approved Attorney Rate	FY18-19 Projected Billable Net Income	FY 19-20 Projected Billable Hrs	FY 19-20 Proposed Attorney Rate	Projected FY 19-20 Billable Net Income	Estimated Billable Net Income Increase	% Increase
AAB	336	180	60,444	350	187	65,450	5,006	8%
Animal Services	320	180	57,671	339	187	63,393	5,722	10%
Assessor	96	180	17,207	101	187	18,887	1,680	10%
Auditor Controller	49	180	8,866	52	187	9,724	858	10%
Behavioral Health	391	180	70,421	414	187	77,418	6,997	10%
Behavioral Health - ELS	1,726	180	310,751	1,746	187	326,502	15,751	5%
CAP	39	180	6,948	41	187	7,667	719	10%
Clerk of the Board	177	180	31,907	181	187	33,847	1,940	6%
CV Resource Conserv	23	180	4,212	25	187	4,675	463	11%
DA	3	180	500	3	187	561	61	12%
DCSS	34	180	6,084	36	187	6,732	648	11%
DPSS	1,236	180	222,469	1,319	187	246,653	24,184	11%
DPSS - Dependency	29,511	180	5,311,940	29,575	187	5,530,525	218,585	4%
EDA	3,300	180	593,944	3,450	187	645,150	51,206	9%
EDA Admin	51	180	9,227	54	187	10,098	871	9%
EDA Aviation	474	180	85,356	492	187	92,004	6,648	8%
EDA Library	9	180	1,550	9	187	1,683	133	9%
EDA Project Management	687	180	123,656	727	187	135,949	12,293	10%
EDA Real Estate	69	180	12,348	73	187	13,651	1,303	11%
EDA Workforce Development	223	180	40,101	236	187	44,132	4,031	10%
EMD	303	180	54,496	321	187	60,027	5,531	10%
Environmental Health	66	180	11,844	70	187	13,090	1,246	11%
Executive Office	2,116	180	380,631	2,230	187	417,010	36,379	10%
First 5	152	180	27,408	161	187	30,107	2,699	10%
Flood Control	1,039	180	187,039	1,100	187	205,700	18,661	10%
Flood Control - Contract	1,095	180	197,137	1,095	187	204,765	7,628	4%
HR	637	180	114,632	674	187	126,038	11,406	10%
Housing Authority	235	180	42,300	249	187	46,530	4,230	10%
IHP - RMM	1,258	180	226,353	1,278	187	238,986	12,633	6%
IT	101	180	18,175	107	187	19,992	1,817	10%
LAFCO	224	180	40,389	238	187	44,428	4,039	10%
Parks	406	180	73,090	424	187	79,288	6,198	8%
Probation	323	180	58,069	342	187	63,876	5,807	10%
Public Guardian	44	180	7,848	46	187	8,633	785	10%
Public Health	126	180	22,644	133	187	24,908	2,264	10%
Registrar of Voters	303	180	54,466	320	187	59,912	5,447	10%
RCHC	6	180	1,100	6	187	1,210	110	10%
Risk Mgmt	3,960	180	712,866	4,193	187	784,152	71,287	10%
RUHS	1,157	180	208,317	1,225	187	229,149	20,832	10%
RUHS - MAK	2,144	180	386,000	2,175	187	406,725	20,725	5%
School Districts	143	180	25,668	151	187	28,235	2,567	10%
Sheriff	722	180	129,920	764	187	142,912	12,992	10%
Sheriff - DHH Contract Ended Dec 2018								
Successor	185	180	33,246	196	187	36,570	3,325	10%
TLMA	156	180	28,080	165	187	30,888	2,808	10%
TLMA ALUC	62	180	11,124	65	187	12,236	1,112	10%
TLMA Building & Safety	24	180	4,394	26	187	4,833	439	10%
TLMA Code	5,457	180	982,266	5,602	187	1,047,574	65,308	7%
TLMA Planning	1,749	180	314,759	1,852	187	346,235	31,476	10%
TLMA RCHCA	108	180	19,476	115	187	21,424	1,948	10%
TLMA Survey	3	180	504	6	187	1,122	618	123%

ATTACHMENT B

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TLMA Transportation	1,495	180	269,061	1,505	187	281,435	12,374	5%
Treasurer Tax Collector	605	180	108,831	640	187	119,714	10,883	10%
Waste	572	180	103,027	606	187	113,329	10,303	10%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>65,728</b>		<b>11,830,958</b>	<b>67,303</b>		<b>\$ 12,585,735</b>	<b>754,777</b>	